

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 104402 TOSEC 040063

FOLLOWING REPEAT USUN 1397 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BONN
DAR ES SALAAM GABORONE LAGOS LONDON LUSAKA MAPUTO OTTAWA PARIS
PRETORIA CAPE TOWN DTD 06 MAY

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1397

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

LONDON FOR THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: US, UN, SF, WA

SUBJECT: BRIEFING OF SYG ON CAPE TOWN TALKS

REF: USUN 1375

WESTERN FIVE AMBASSADORS MET WITH SYG WALDHEIM ON MAY 5
TO BRIEF HIM ON CAPE TOWN TALKS. UK CHIEF OF CHANCERY
BYATT AGREED TO BE NOTETAKER, AND TEXT OF HIS
REPORT FOLLOWS:
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QUOTE 2. REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 5 (THE FRENCH AND GERMAN PERMA-
NENT REPRESENTATIVES, MCHENRY (US), LAPOINTE (CANADA) AND
MURRAY) CALLED ON THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TODAY. MCHENRY GAVE
HIM AN ACCOUNT PRECISELY IN THE TERMS OF THE AGREED TALKING
POINTS (REFTEL). WALDHEIM EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR
THE EFFORTS OF THE FIVE TO MOVE THE NAMIBIAN ISSUE OUT OF

STALEMATE. HE APPRECIATED THE DIFFICULTIES (HE REFERRED TO HIS OWN EARLIER CONTACTS WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN). HE THOUGHT THE PRESENT LINE OF APPROACH SOUNDED MORE HOPEFUL THAN THE IDEA OF A CONFERENCE PROPOSED BY DR KISSINGER LAST YEAR. HE HOPED IT WOULD LEAD TO A SOLUTION. HE WANTED PARTICULARLY TO KNOW WHETHER THE APPOINTMENT OF A UN REPRESENTATIVE WOULD BE SUBJECT TO SOUTH AFRICAN APPROVAL, SAYING THAT, LAST TIME HE HAD HAD TO SUGGEST ABOUT THREE DOZEN PEOPLE BEFORE SECURING SOUTH AFRICAN AGREEMENT TO ESCHER. WE REPLIED THAT VORSTER HAD BEEN TOLD, AND HAD ACCEPTED, THAT NONE OF THE PARTIES WOULD HAVE A VETO OVER THE APPOINTMENT BUT THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WOULD NO DOUBT DO HIS BEST TO APPOINT SOMEBODY WHO WAS GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE TO THEM ALL.

3. WALDHEIM ALSO ASKED PARTICULARLY ABOUT BRIEFING OF SWAPO, COMMENTING THAT SECURING THEIR CO-OPERATION WAS ESSENTIAL BUT MIGHT PROVE THE MOST DIFFICULT PART OF THE OPERATION. THEY WOULD BE RELUCTANT TO ACCEPT SOMETHING WHICH, BY IMPLICATION, UNDERMINED THEIR ENDORSEMENT BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AS THE "SOLE REPRESENTATIVES" OF THE NAMIBIANS. HE HOPED THE FRONT LINE STATES WOULD HELP TO PERSUADE SWAPO. HE AGREED THAT IT WAS WISE THAT WE SHOULD NOT AT THIS STAGE PUT OUR IDEAS ON PAPER TO HIM OR TO OTHERS.

4. FARAH, THE SOMALI ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL, WHO WAS PRESENT, ASKED ABOUT THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA. WE EXPLAINED THAT THIS WAS A PROBLEM AND NEEDED FURTHER THOUGHT. HE ALSO COMMENTED THAT FURTHER PROGRESS

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ON DETAINEES AND DISCRIMINATORY LEGISLATION WOULD BE VALUABLE SINCE THESE WERE POINTS ON WHICH SWAPO COULD EASILY MAKE DIFFICULTIES.

5. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL COMMENTED TO US THAT FARAH ENJOYED GOOD PERSONAL RELATIONS WITH BOTH THE SOUTH AFRICANS AND SWAPO. HE ALSO REFERRED TO THE PRESENT COMMISSIONER FOR NAMIBIA IN TERMS WHICH MAY HAVE IMPLIED THAT HE WAS THINKING OF A POSSIBLE UN REPRESENTATIVE.

6. WALDHEIM CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT HE WOULD DO HIS BEST TO HELP, BUT MUST BE CAREFUL TO REMAIN IMPARTIAL.

7. ALTHOUGH THE FORMAL REACTION OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND HIS ADVISERS WAS UNDERSTANDABLY CAUTIOUS, THOUGH SYMPATHETIC, FARAH TOOK MURRAY ASIDE AT THE END OF THE MEETING AND REMARKED THAT "YOU HAVE ACHIEVED MIRACLES". UNQUOTE
YOUNG UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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